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# House of Representatives

## Chamber Action

**Measures Introduced:** 28 public bills, H.R. 3540–3567; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 332–335, and H. Res. 460–461, were introduced.

Pages H11700–02

**Additional Cosponsors:**

Pages H11702–03

**Reports Filed:** Reports were filed as follows today:

H.R. 2408, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 to reauthorize volunteer programs and community partnerships for national wildlife refuges, amended (H. Rept. 108–385);

Conference report on H.R. 1904, to improve the capacity of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to plan and conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands aimed at protecting communities, watersheds, and certain other at-risk lands from catastrophic wildfire, to enhance efforts to protect watersheds and address threats to forest and rangeland health, including catastrophic wildfire, across the landscape (H. Rept. 108–386);

H. Res. 456, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 108–387);

H. Res. 457, waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany H.R. 1904, to improve the capacity of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to plan and conduct hazardous fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands and Bureau of Land Management lands aimed at protecting communities, watersheds, and certain other at-risk lands from catastrophic wildfire, to enhance efforts to protect watersheds and address threats to forest and rangeland health, including catastrophic wildfire, across the landscape (H. Rept. 108–388);

H. Res. 458, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 108–389); and

H. Res. 459, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules (H. Rept. 108–390).

Conference report on H.R. 1, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary program for prescription drug coverage under the Medicare Program, to modernize the Medicare Program, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction to individuals for amounts contributed to health savings security accounts and health savings accounts, to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, and for other purposes, (H. Rept. 108–391).

Page H11686–98, H11700

**Speaker Pro Tempore:** Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Bass to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H11657

**Chaplain:** The prayer was offered today by Rev. Msgr. Barry Knestout of the Archdiocese of Washington, DC.

Page H11657

**Consideration of measures under suspension of the rules:** The House agreed to H. Res. 449, providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules by a voice vote.

Pages H11660–61

**Intelligence Authorization Act—Conference Report:** The House agreed to the conference report on H.R. 2417, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2004 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 264 yeas to 163 nays, Roll No. 649.

Pages H11661–63, H11667–78

Agreed to H. Res. 451, the rule providing for consideration of the conference report by a voice vote.

Pages H11661–63

**Continuing Appropriations for fiscal year 2004:** The House passed H.J. Res. 78, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2004, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 410 yeas to 10 nays, Roll No. 648.

Pages H11667–73, H11677

Agreed to H. Res. 450, the rule providing for consideration of the measure by a yeas-and-nays vote of 406 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 645.

Pages H11663–65

**Recess:** The House recessed at 1 p.m. and reconvened at 1:35 p.m.

Page H11677

**Medicare Prescription Drug and Modernization Act of 2003—Motion to Instruct Conferees:** The House rejected the Hooley motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a voluntary prescription drug benefit under the Medicare program and to strengthen and improve the Medicare program, by a yea-and-nay vote of 201 yeas to 222 nays, Roll No. 650. **Pages H11678–79**

Later the House debated the Inslee motion to instruct conferees on the bill. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. **Pages H11845–53**

**Labor/HHS Appropriations—Motion to Instruct Conferees:** The House agreed to the Kildee motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2660, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, by a yea-and-nay vote of 360 yeas to 64 nays, Roll No. 651. **Pages H11679–80**

Later Representative Markey announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on the bill and Representative Pomeroy announced his intention to offer a motion to instruct conferees on the bill. **Page H11845**

**Suspensions:** The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

***Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Prevention Act of 2003:*** Debated on Wednesday, November 19, S. 286, to revise and extend the Birth Defects Prevention Act of 1998, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 415 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 646—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11665–66**

***Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness Act Amendments of 2003:*** Debated on Wednesday, November 19, S. 686, amended, to provide assistance for poison prevention and to stabilize the funding of regional poison control centers, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 420 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 647; **Pages H11666–67**

***21st Century Nanotechnology Research and Development Act:*** S. 189, to authorize appropriations for nanoscience, nanoengineering, and nanotechnology research; **Pages H11680–85**

***Veterans Benefits Act of 2003:*** Agreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2297, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11705–22**

***Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003:*** Agreed to the Senate amendments to H.J. Res. 63, to approve the Compact of Free Association, as amended, between the Government of the United

States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Compact of Free Association, as amended, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and to appropriate funds to carry out the amended Compacts, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas to 2 nays, Roll No. 652—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11722–57**

***Commending the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter:*** Agreed to the Senate amendments to H. Con. Res. 209, commending the signing of the United States-Adriatic Charter, a charter of partnership among the United States, Albania, Croatia, and The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 416 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 653—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11757–59, H11842–43**

***Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003:*** Agreed to the Senate amendments to H.R. 1828, to halt Syrian support for terrorism, end its occupation of Lebanon, stop its development of weapons of mass destruction, cease its illegal importation of Iraqi oil and illegal shipments of weapons and other military items to Iraq, and by so doing hold Syria accountable for the serious international security problems it has caused in the Middle East, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 408 yeas to 8 nays, with one voting “present”, Roll No. 654—clearing the measure for the President; **Pages H11759–62, H11843–44**

***Tax Relief Extension Act of 2003:*** H.R. 3521, amended, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions; and **Pages H11762–H11833**

***Two Floods and You Are Out of the Taxpayers' Pocket Act of 2003:*** H.R. 253, amended, to amend the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to reduce losses to properties for which repetitive flood insurance claim payments have been made, by a  $\frac{2}{3}$  yea-and-nay vote of 352 yeas to 67 nays, Roll No. 655. **Pages H11833–42, H11844**

**Extending the Programs on the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act:** The House agreed by unanimous consent to pass S. 1895, to temporarily extend the programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through March 15, 2004—clearing the measure for the President. **Pages H11844–45**

**Transportation and Treasury Appropriations—Motion to Instruct Conferees:** The House agreed to the Hastings of Florida motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2989, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation and Treasury, and

independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004 by voice vote. **Pages H11853–56**

**Senate Messages:** Messages received from the Senate today appear on pages H11658 and H11677.

**Senate Referral:** S. 1895 was ordered held at the desk. **Page H11658**

**Quorum Calls—Votes:** 11 yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H11665, H11665–66, H11666–67, H11677, H11678, H11678–79, H11679–80, H11842, H11843, H11843–44 and H11844. There were no recorded votes or quorum calls.

**Adjournment:** The House met at 10 a.m. and at 12 midnight stands in recess subject to the call of the chair; the House reconvened at 1:17 a.m. and adjourned at 1:18 a.m.

## Committee Meetings

### NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION EFFICIENCY ACT; REPORTS

*Committee on Government Reform:* Ordered reported H.R. 3478, National Archives and Records Administration Efficiency Act of 2003.

The Committee also approved the following: a report “Efforts to Rightsize the U.S. Presence Abroad Lack Urgency and Momentum;” and a draft report entitled “Everything Secret Degenerates: The FBI’s Use of Murderers as Informants.”

### PASSENGER SCREENER TRAINING REVIEW

*Committee on Government Reform:* Held a hearing on Knives, Box Cutters and Bleach: A Review of Passenger Screener Training, Testing and Supervision. Testimony was heard from Stephen McHale, Deputy Administrator, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security; Cathleen A. Berrick, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

### AUTISM—FUTURE CHALLENGES

*Committee on Government Reform:* Subcommittee on Human Rights and Wellness held a hearing entitled “The Future Challenges of Autism: A Survey of the Ongoing Initiatives in the Federal Government to Address the Epidemic.” Testimony was heard from Peter Van Dyck, Associate Administrator, Office of Maternal and Child Health Bureau, Health Resources and Services Administration, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

### AUTHORIZE AND ISSUE SUBPOENAS RELATED TO INVESTIGATION OF 527 ORGANIZATIONS

*Committee on House Administration:* Adopted a resolution delegating to the Chairman the power to authorize and issue subpoenas related to an investigation of 527 Organizations.

### HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS UNDER SADDAM HUSSEIN VICTIMS SPEAK OUT

*Committee on International Relations:* Subcommittee on the Middle East and Central Asia held a hearing on Human Rights Violations Under Saddam Hussein: Victims Speak Out. Testimony was heard from Representatives Pryce of Ohio and Hooley of Oregon; Maj. Alvin Schmidt, USMC, Deputy Force Protection Officer, First Marine Expeditionary Force, USMC, Department of Defense; and public witnesses.

### OVERSIGHT—HOMELAND SECURITY

*Committee on the Judiciary:* Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, and Homeland Security held an oversight hearing on “Homeland Security—the Balance Between Crisis and Consequence Management through Training and Assistance,” including discussion of the following bills: H.R. 2512, First Responders Funding Reform Act of 2003; H.R. 3266, Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act of 2003; and H.R. 3158, Preparing America to Respond Effectively Act of 2003. Testimony was heard from C. Suzanne Mencer, Director, Office of Domestic Preparedness, Department of Homeland Security; William Bishop, Director, Bureau of Homeland Security, State of Idaho; and Raymond W. Kelly, Police Commissioner, City of New York.

### OVERSIGHT—JOHN F. CHAFEE COASTAL BARRIER RESOURCES SYSTEM

*Committee on Resources:* Subcommittee on Fisheries Conservation, Wildlife and Oceans held an oversight hearing on the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System. Testimony was heard from Benjamin N. Tuggle, Chief, Division of Federal Program Activities, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior; Anthony S. Lowe, Director, Mitigation Division and Federal Insurance Administrator, FEMA, Department of Homeland Security; and a public witness.

### MAKING IN ORDER SUSPENSION AUTHORITY

*Committee on Rules:* Reported, by voice vote, a resolution providing that suspensions will be in order at any time on the legislative day of Friday, November 21, 2003. The resolution provides that the Speaker